Message Text

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44

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /016 W ----- 071224

R 101134Z MAR 76 FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7971 INFO USIA WASHDC

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FOR: CU/WE AND EUR/CE, USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: ENDOWMENT OF UNIVERSITY CHAIR

REF: (A) 75 VIENNA 10633, 75 STATE 303257, (C) VIENNA 0082

1. CHANCELLOR KREISKY PROPOSED AND THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT DECIDED LAST WEEK TO ESTABLISH AN AUSTRIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AN AUSTRIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE U.S.A." THE ANNOUNCEMENT REFERS TO THE "GREAT SIGNIFICANCE OF AMERICAN HELP FOR AUSTRIAN RECONTRUCTION AFTER WWII AND TO THE COUNTLESS INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE MADE AT THAT TIME" AND STATES THE VIEW THAT IT WOULD SEEM PROPER TO EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE OF THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLE AND ITS TIES WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN WAYS OTHER THAN TRHOUGH GOVERNMENTAL ACTION. THUS, THE NEW COMMITTEE WILL SEEK PRVIATE FUNDS FOR THE FINANCING OF AN AUSTRIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE BICENTENNIAL, AND THE GOA WILL ADD A MATCHING AMOUNT TO THE MONEYS SO COLLECTED.

2. TWO MEMBERS OF THE CHANCELOR'S STAFF, KUNZ AND SCHREK, HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH SETTING UP THE COMMITTEE. THERE IS NO INDICATION OF THE PROPOSED FORM WHICH THE "CONTRIBUTION" WOULD TAKE OR THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE GOA CONCERNING THE AMOUNT WHICH THE PUBLIC APPEAL MIGHT YIELD. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT IF SUFFICIENT FUNDS CAN BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REALIZED, THE ENDOWMENT OF A CHAIR OF AUSTRIAN STUDIES AT AN

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY (REFTEL) IS STILL THE PROJECT KREISKY PREFERS. IT WOULD BE TIMELY, THEREFORE, FOR EMBASSY TO HAVE DEPT'S REPLY TO REFTEL.BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

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